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NEWSLETTER

JULY 1983

ADMINISTRATIVE MESSAGE - C.L. Gilbertson

I hope the shock of receiving our annually printed quarterly newsletter is not too much for you. We, at the State, believe this publication is very important to keep each of us current of the happenings at the state and local level, and also the states views of impacts that Federal rules and regulations may have on a State and Local disaster preparedness program. We can offer many excuses as to why we have been negligent in this regard, more importantly, is that we have made the adjustments to insure that, quarterly, you will receive our newsletters in the future. Ed Swetish is our new EDITOR and if I know Ed, he'll make it go. Our thanks to Ed, the "Ed"itor.

By the time this reaches you, most work on your local governments budgets is well underway. Hopefully each county will receive enough funds to continue your responsibilities in disaster preparedness in FY'84. The 1983 State Legislature appropriated a bare bones biennial budget for our agency so we anticipate we can continue to support your activities at the current level. We requested and received authority to put a full time communications technician on board sometime early in FY'84. Communications and warning

continues to be a top priority effort in disaster response at all levels of government and with this technician to assist and with anticipated increase in Federal funding support we hope to be able to support much more of local governments requests for eligible technical and financial assistance in commo, warning, direction and control.

In August, I and members of my staff will be negotiating our Federal FY'84 Comprehensive Cooperative Agreement (CCA). This is the document under which we

outline our work effort (State and Local) for FY'84 and consequently, receive the Federal funds to support that work effort. We anticipate under the Integrated Emergency Management System (IEMS) which the Feds have adopted for FY'84, that we should be able to support local government's increased levels of preparedness better than in the past. The one area that still is totally unresolved is our Training and Education portion. There will be many changes, I'll be more specific in the next issue, but your District Representative can bring you up to date when he next visits you.

Stay in touch and let us know where we can help.

NEMA NEWS - C.L. Gilbertson

The National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) held a spring working conference in Washington D.C. in mid-May. Primary topics of discussion were the proposed changes in EMA allocation funding (Montana ends up with a considerable increase if adopted), NEMA's proposed affiliation with the National Governor's Conference, FY'84 FEMA budget, proposed changes to the T & E structure and others. Position papers were developed and personally discussed with legislative leaders and individual congressional delegates.

EOC UPDATE

At the present time Montana has two new EOC projects underway. Lewis and Clark County recently received an additional \$195,000 for a total of \$229,684 in Federal funds for their EOC project. This facility will be located in the new law enforcement building in Helena. Bids have been let by the county and construction will commence in the immediate future. Approximately 17% of the total building space will be allocated for EOC purposes or about 5,200 square feet.

The new State EOC will also get underway shortly. The last legislature appropriated \$500,294 of general fund money as the State match for this project. Plans and specifications for this project are presently being finalized and it is anticipated the project will go to bid in October. This project has been sorely needed by the State for many years, and we feel very fortunate in obtaining the State funds to match those of the Federal. The construction will require that we vacate our present EOC location, however, we will remain in the same building... somewhere. Arrangements are also being made to insure that space is available for expansion, in the event of an emergency during the construction period.

Also plans still include a State communication center collocated in our new EOC. This will include Montana Highway Patrol dispatch, Law Enforcement Network Services, National Guard Net, SECURE in addition to our other present systems. Also all other State systems (i.e. Highway, Maintenance...) will be remoted into our Commo Center.

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FEDERAL LEGISLATION UPDATE - C.L.G.

The Federal budget grinds along very slowly. It appears at this time, the FY'84 FEMA budget for the Civil Defense portion will be somewhere between 1983 levels and 200 million. Legislative actions indicate a probable 200 million authorization with the amount appropriated still to be discussed.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION UPDATE - Cont.

PL 93-288 - Disaster Act. This revision to update still has not been introduced. Should be out of OMB SOON.

HR 2212 - Rep. Marlene requiring shelters in Federal funded construction. Still in committee.

HR 2085 - Rep. Williams requiring consideration of underground structures for public buildings. Still in committee.

If you're interested in any of these Federal Legislations, please let your Senators and Congressmen know.

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NEW POSITION

The last legislature authorized the State office one additional employee. This newly created position is that of a communications technician. A position description for this position has been developed and is currently in the hands of the State Classification Bureau for their action. Once the position has been formally classified we will be advertising to fill it. We feel the addition of a commo person to the staff will be very beneficial to the counties and the state office.

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LANDSLIDE

The landslide creating Thistle Lake on the Spanish Fork River, 20 miles from Spanish Forks, Utah, resulted in their first Presidential Major Disaster Declaration. The small number of people directly effected provided excellent training which allowed them to become operationally prepared and functioning for the problems which followed in subsequent weeks. At the request of FEMA, Jan Henry went down for ten days to assist the state agency responsible for implementing the Individual and Family Grant Program (IFG). Their IFG Administrative Plan was updated and the procedures for taking, verifying and determining eligibility on applications were established and functioning well when he left.

DAM SAFETY - Jan Henry

During the last legislative session, the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation submitted Senate Bill 362 which would have vastly improved Montana's weak dam safety legislation. Because of lack of support the bill was killed.

Presentation Available

Recently, our office became aware of an excellent 21 minute slidesound presentation prepared by the Soil Conservation Service and F.F.M.A. called "Dam Safety -Who is Responsible?" A short brochure, with the same title, and the slide-sound presentation are available through your local SCS office. Copies of the brochure have been given to the Field Representatives for distribution to each local coordinator. We feel it is an excellent discussion of the problem and would make a good presentation at the local level, and encourage you to check it out. The office is trying to obtain a permanent copy for our use through F.E.M.A. If the state and locals can build some grass roots support over the next two years, maybe we will see a positive change in dam safety legislation in 1985.

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Chuck McCombs, District #2 Field Representative has moved his office to the Montana Air National Guard Quarters at the International Airport, Great Falls, Montana; Phone Number 761-8551; collocated with Disaster Preparedness Office Building 32.

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C.C.A. - G. DeWolf

Program papers and Program Status Reports are now out. The Comprehensive Cooperation Agreement (C.C.A.) will contain provisions for collecting information on the projected activities of local jurisdictions. Inclusion of projects and activities in the State C.C.A. submission is equivalent to the process used in the Local Program Papers and Program Status Reports.

RDO COURSE - D. Lieberg

We had 24 students participate in the Radiological Defense Officer/Instructor Course held in Butte, May 1-6. The course consisted of 3½ days of training on a variety of RADEF subjects (ie. basics of nuclear radiation, nuclear weapon effects, instrumentation, monitoring techniques, fallout forecasting, history curves, planning, etc.) including ½ day dedicated to a RADEF exercise. During the final 1½ days each individual gave a presentation on segments of the material covered during the first 3½ days. The course concluded with the Adjutant General, James W. Duffy, handing out course certificates.

This course is difficult and sometimes demanding, but these people gave up their valuable time to improve their jurisdiction's capability to react to a nuclear emergency. Everyone of them took this course seriously. They need to be recognized. Please give them a pat on the back and keep them interested in the emergency management community.

Those attending the course were:

Lee Bear, Belle Fourche, SD; Jon Dilliard, Madison County; Drew Kehoe, Silver Bow County; Jim Bernet, MT DES; Joe Foster, MT DES; Dave Kneebone, Silver Bow County; Jane Bolzer, Stillwater County; "Ace" Howe, MT Dept. of Health; Darrell McCoog, Cascade County; Frank Burke, Lewis & Clark County; Edwin Jenkins, Park County; Marty Mavrinac, Deer Lodge County; Con Dennehy, Silver Bow County; Skip Joseph, Cascade County; Mike Mitchell, Madison County; Dick Morgan, MT DES; Frank Snyder, Silver Bow County; Emmett Johnston, Lincoln County; Tim Murphy, Roosevelt County; Tom Taylor, Dawson County; Lonnie Roberts, Ravalli County; George Wright, Custer County; Don Sivertson, Wheatland County; Ron Zabrocki, Custer County.

(Continued on Reverse Side)

RDO - Continued

The Instructors for the course were:

Jim Neiles, RDO - South Dakota; Chris Christensen, Jim Brown and Dan Lieberg, Montana State DES; Susan Stein, OMNI Research and Training, FEMA Region VIII; Bob Hite, Training Officer, FEMA Region VIII.

A special thanks goes out to Wilma Puich who supported the course prior to and during our entire stay.

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RSM - D. Lieberg

For the remainder of Federal Fiscal Year 1983, the RSM schedule is as follows:

July - Silver Bow & Cascade Counties

August - McCone, Dawson, Wibaux, Broadwater, Jefferson Counties

September - Roosevelt, Richland, Madison, Beaverhead Counties.

Jim Brown and Joe Foster will be contacting each county to make arrangements for training, times, locations, etc.

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MUD, MUD, MUD & FLOODS - G. DeWolf

Our neighboring State (Utah) is experiencing many problems with mud slides and flooding. It is estimated that damage will run into the millions of dollars in the private and public sectors. This is the first Presidentially declared disaster Utah has ever experienced and to provide them with some assistance, Mr. Gilbertson has sent Jim Anderson from the State staff to help them set up the mechanism needed to participate in the Public Assistance Program. Jim is an expert in this field and Montana is proud to have him on board and to be able to loan him to the Great State of Utah.

INTEGRATED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT - NCP

The Emergency Management System (IEMS) approach is based upon the premise that there are common functions required in all emergency situations to protect the health and safety of citizens. The common functions include: planning, warning, communications, direction and control, shelter, movement of people, and provision of food and health and medical resources. Recognizing these commonalities and establishing capabilities to deal with these requirements will provide a basic infrastructure and a foundation on which to build special capabilities to deal with the unique requirements of individual types of emergencies.

1983 is a transition year, during which FEMA will develop detailed guidance to put our new and more effective approach into full operation in 1984.

This system is designed to:

Meet the president's civil defense objectives as set forth in the 1983 National Security Decision Directive and the congressional objectives set forth in the 1980 and 1981 amendments of the Federal Civil Defense Act.

Foster a full federal, state, and local government partnership with provisions for flexibility at the several levels of government for achieving common goals.

Emphasize implementation of emergency Management measures which are known to be effective.

Achieve more complete integration of emergency management planning into mainstream state and local policy-making and operational systems.

Build on the foundation of existing emergency management plans, systems, and capabilities to broaden their applicability to the full spectrum of emergencies.

SUPPORT MATERIALS

Quite a number of counties have been successful in obtaining Federal match funds under the support materials program. In fact, every project which was submitted to FEMA has been approved. The end result is that ten counties, plus state, has benefited by this program during the current fiscal year. Every County Coordinator is urged to confer with their State District Representative regarding this program. It is highly possible that a county is contemplating the purchase of something which would be eligible for Federal matching funds. If you don't submit an application you can't get the federal money. We are now approaching the end of FY-83 and it would be to your advantage to submit applications under this program now. Last fiscal year we were very successful in obtaining year end money from FEMA due to other States turning back funds. This fiscal year the same could occur. By submitting your applications early we could take advantage of any end of the year funds which may be available. If year end funds are not available, or if short, you have not lost anything by submitting early. We will carry over all applications not acted upon into the new Federal Fiscal Year beginning October 1.

EXCESS PROPERTY UPDATE - D. Keller

The bill to donate excess property in place was passed by Congress in late December 1982. Since that time the Federal Emergency Management Agency has provided the State with a computer printout of all excess property in Montana. The Montana State D.E.S. office checked the list for accuracy, made corrections, certified it and returned it to F.E.M.A., Region VIII. F.E.M.A., Region VIII had approximately 5% of the equipment inspected. They then certified the printout and sent it to the National office during the month of May. Region VIII has all the documents ready to release the equipment and are waiting for the "green light" from the National office. As soon as they receive the go ahead they will begin releasing the titles.

NCP - AIRFORCE EXERCISES - Ed Swetish

NCP held two exercises in conjunction with the U.S. Air Force.

The first exercise was held June 8th in Great Falls with Chuck McCombs & Bill Murray as moderators, involving elected officials; first responders; news media; D.E.S. Coordinators from Cascade, Lewis & Clark and Chouteau Counties; and Air Force personnel from Malmstrom Air Force Base. The exercise was based on a plane crash scenario involving City, County and Air Force property. Thirty-five people attended the exercise scrutinizing every aspect of the problems arising from such an accident.

The second exercise was held in Lewistown June 9th and based on an accident scenario involving a U.S. Air Force Van and a tanker loaded with chlorine that spills inundating the town with poisonous gas. Here too elected officials; first responders; news media; D.E.S. Coordinators from Fergus, Wheatland and Judith Basin counties; District Field Rep's Chuck McCombs and Dick Morgan attended. As in the previous exercise the U.S. Air Force from Malmstrom Air Force Base attended, lending support and defining their roll in such cases.

In both exercises Brigadier General E.J. Whalen, Assistant Adjutant General and Major Dennis E. Rice, Chief of Disaster Preparedness at Malmstrom AFB moderated the Air Force portion of the exercise. Their expertise was invaluable where questions arose involving the military. Moderators for the tri-county exercise were James Bernet and Edward A. Swetish, with George "Chris" Christensen giving the summary. Thirty-five people also attended this exercise addressing the many questions that arose.

On July 27, a similar exercise will be held in Conrad involving the U.S. Air Force from Malmstrom Air Force Base and elected officials; first responders; news media; D.E.S. Coordinators from Pondera, Teton and Toole Counties. Chuck McCombs is coordinating the effort and will also attend the exercise.

Missoula County has 10,000 feed bags for sale at 13¢ each. This is a first come first served (sandbag) supply. For further information call Orin Olsgaard, Missoula County D.E.S. Coord., Phone 721-5700 Ext. 458.

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Sanders County Needs the following equipment:

One 4-5KW Generating Plant
One Air Compressor for filling
scuba diving tanks.
One small Fire Siren

Anyone having one of these in excess of your County needs, please contact Lyle Hill, Sanders County D.E.S. Coordinator at 826-3111, Plains, MT.

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Pondera County needs a water pump for a fire truck engine. The truck is a Ward-LaFrance 750A pumper, 203 H.P., Model R or K 6602. Serial #60959. Contact Helen Elliott at 278-3543, Conrad, MT.

D.E.S. DIVISION - NEWSLETTER

Published Quarterly

Ted Schwinden
Governor

James W. Duffy
Adjutant General

C.L. Gilbertson
Administrator

The articles in this newsletter do not constitute official policy.

Joe Foster, the newest addition to our office staff, has completed the first of three phases in the Montana National Guards Officer Candidate School (OCS) Program. Joe will be involved in the school for the next year by attending drills at the Montana Military Academy in Helena and another two week "summer camp" next year. If all goes well Joe should graduate as a second lieutenant in the Montana National Guard this time next year.

Disaster & Emergency Services
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